

ABSTRACT

An optical head of a type useable in a optical disk reader/writer is provided. One of the optical elements is provided in a fashion that one or more optical parameters or characteristics of the system are invariant, regardless of whether the one optical element is used, or not. In one embodiment the optical element is a beamshaper. In order to provide the desired invariant property, the surfaces of the optical element are preferably formed with high accuracy. One manner of economically achieving high accuracy is to measure errors or imperfections in a first formed, preferably etched, surface and adjust the shape or position of a second aligned etched surface so as to at least partially compensate for the errors or imperfections.

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